

U.S. Appl. No. 11/712,886
Atty. Docket No. 09700.0035-00
SAP Ref. 2003P00473US

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, and 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0041142 to Zhang et al. ("Zhang") in view of "Introduction to Grid Computing with Globus" by IBM ("IBM") and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0179481 to Graupner ("Graupner"); and rejected claims 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhang in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0101331 to Boylan et al. ("Boylan") and further in view of IBM and Graupner

By this amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 4, and 5, and adds new independent claims 15-17. Based on the amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections presented in the Office Action.

I. The Telephonic Interview of May 13, 2009

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of May 13, 2009 with Applicants' representative. Applicants discussed the possibility of amending the independent claims as presented herein. The Examiner agreed that these amendments would distinguish the claims from the cited references.

II. The Rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 9-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 1 recites, for example, "a computer-readable storage device comprising instructions for causing a processor to ... generate ... a graph with directional edges ... indicat[ing] the routing of the resource requests from the superior grid managers to request the computational resources on the inferior grid managers" (emphasis added).

As agreed to by the Examiner during the interview, the cited references fail to render obvious at least these recitations of claim 1.

Zhang discloses a system for monitoring an active network that uses application specific modules to customize user interfaces (*Zhang*, abstract). FIG. 4 of *Zhang* illustrates a network with several routers, two of which are down (*Zhang*, FIG. 4 and ¶ 82). *Zhang* also discloses a monitoring application that interacts with "packet flows" to create the interface shown in FIG. 4 (*Zhang*, ¶ 86). However, *Zhang* does not illustrate these packet flows, nor does *Zhang* disclose that the packets themselves are "resource requests." Therefore, as agreed to by the Examiner during the interview, *Zhang* does not teach or suggest "generat[ing] ... a graph with directional edges ... indicat[ing] the routing of the resource requests from the superior grid managers to request the computational resources on the inferior grid managers," as recited by independent claim 1 (emphasis added).

IBM includes a general discussion of grid computing (*IBM*, p. 3). *IBM* also includes an image of an administrator viewing a computer screen and adjusting grid policies (*IBM*, p. 12). However, as the Examiner agreed during the interview, *IBM* also does not teach or suggest "generat[ing] ... a graph with directional edges ... indicat[ing] the routing of the resource requests from the superior grid managers to request the computational resources on the inferior grid managers," as recited by independent claim 1 (emphasis added).

Graupner discloses an "overlay network" which comprises a plurality of nodes in a computer network (*Graupner*, abstract). The nodes may register with a directory, and

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the directory includes descriptions of the nodes based on the registrations (*Graupner*, ¶ 31). In addition, *Graupner*'s nodes may pass references to themselves on to their descendants (*Graupner*, ¶ 33). However, *Graupner* does not disclose or suggest that "resource requests" for "computation resources" are routed amongst the nodes. Further, *Graupner* does not teach or suggest that the "overlay network" includes directional edges indicating the routing of such resource requests. Therefore, as the Examiner agreed during the interview, *Graupner* also does not teach or suggest "generat[ing] ... a graph with directional edges ... indicat[ing] the routing of the resource requests from the superior grid managers to request the computational resources on the inferior grid managers," as recited by independent claim 1 (emphasis added).

For at least the above reasons, the cited references do not render obvious claim 1, and a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. Therefore, the Examiner should withdraw the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and allow independent claim 1.

Claims 2 and 9-14 depend from claim 1. These dependent claims are allowable at least due to their dependence on the independent claim. Accordingly, the Examiner should also withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 2 and 9-14 and allow these dependent claims.

III. The Rejection of Claims 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Claim 4

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claim 4. A *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to independent claim 4.

Independent claim 4 recites a computer-readable storage device comprising instructions for causing a processor to perform a method, the method comprising displaying a first GUI comprising "a graph with ... vectors pointing from the superior grid managers to the inferior grid managers to indicate routing of resource requests from the superior grid managers to request computational resources from the inferior grid managers" (emphasis added). For reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1 and as agreed to by the Examiner during the interview, *Zhang, IBM, and Graupner* fail to teach or suggest at least these recitations of claim 4.

Boylan discloses a "view-based design technique for an ASIC" (*Boylan*, abstract). *Boylan*'s technique includes displaying ASIC cores in a hierarchy (*Boylan*, FIGS. 1 and 2, ¶¶ 30 and 32). However, *Boylan* does not disclose a vector that indicates a routing of resource requests between the cores, for example. Therefore, as agreed by the Examiner during the interview, *Boylan* also does not teach or suggest "a graph with ... vectors pointing from the superior grid managers to the inferior grid managers to indicate routing of resource requests from the superior grid managers to request computational resources from the inferior grid managers," as recited by independent claim 4.

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For at least the above reasons, the cited references do not render obvious claim 4 and no *prima facie* case has been established. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and allow claim 4.

B. Claims 5-8

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 5-8. A *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to these claims.

Independent claim 5 recites a method including "drawing a first group of vectors directed from the first grid manager to the inferior grid managers, the first group of vectors indicating that resource requests in the grid network are routed from the first grid manager to request computational resources from the inferior grid managers" (emphasis added). For reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 4, *Zhang, IBM, Graupner, and Boylan* fail to teach or suggest at least these recitations of claim 5.

Claims 6-8 depend from claim 5. These dependent claims are allowable at least due to their dependence on the independent claim. Accordingly, the Examiner should also withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 6-8 and allow these dependent claims.

IV. New Claims 15-17

New independent claims 15-17 are allowable for at least similar reasons to those discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 4, and 5, respectively.

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V. Conclusion

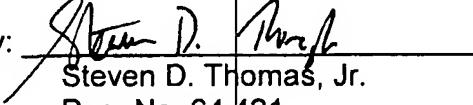
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this claimed invention, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the cited art. Applicants therefore request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 20, 2009

By: 
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Reg. No. 64,421